

(b) the number of these seats/berths reserved for passengers to Kerala;

(c) the number of berths/seats reserved from Madras and stations in Tamil Nadu and other States;

(d) the number of the seats/berths in each class which were occupied during each journey from Delhi to each of these States during the past three months alongwith the details of vacant seats;

(e) whether Kerala is not adequately served even though there are more passengers from that State; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The total accommodation available in the Hazrat Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Rajdhani Express train in each class is as under :

18 berths in 1st AC

135 berths in AC2-Tier

256 berths in AC3-Tier

(b) and (c) Out of total accommodation of 409 berths available in all classes, 123 berths are allotted at Nizamuddin to Kerala bound passengers. Rest of the accommodation is allotted to passengers going to other States including Tamil Nadu.

(d) The utilisation of reservation quota by 2432 Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Rajdhani Express train during the last three months ending February'97 is as under :

Month	1st AC	2AC	3AC
Dec.'96 for Madras	40%	58%	69%
for Trivandrum	60%	100%	100%
Jan.'96 for Madras	15%	44%	50%
for Trivandrum	37%	74%	86%
Feb.'97 for Madras	27%	39%	46%
for Trivandrum	40%	58%	80%

(e) and (f) It is proposed to provide an additional quota of 2 berths in 1st AC, 23 berths in 2AC and 35 berths in 3AC for Trivandrum bound passengers by 2432 Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Rajdhani Express train.

Express Container Railway Service

4023. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched express container railway service for domestic cargo between major cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof with plan of action, year-wise and area-wise with related details;

(c) the measures taken to expand/upgrade/modernise movement of goods traffic in the country during 1997-98 and implications thereof, zone-wise; and

(d) the projections of rise in goods traffic over the next five years and action programme worked out to meet the traffic load?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Railway has started, between selected pairs of stations, nominated-day container services called CONTRACK since January, 1997.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) Induction of high horse power Locomotives, Bottom Discharge Hopper wagons for improving wagon turnround and wagon utilisation is being done for upgrading/modernising freight traffic operation. Higher levels of freight traffic will be carried by acquisition of additional Rolling Stock.

(d) It is expected that in the next 5 years i.e. in the terminal year of the IXth Plan, the freight traffic would rise to 525 million tonnes from 410 mt in 1996-97 (Revised Estimate). The above traffic would be met by acquisition of additional rolling stock and by improving utilisation of the existing stock.

Statement

The details of CONCOR's CONTRACK services

Stream	Frequency	Day/Date	Commenced From
Delhi-Chennai	Thrice every week	Friday, Sunday and Tuesday	17.01.97
Delhi-Vijaywada	Fortnightly	15th & 30th of every month	30.01.97
Kanpur-Calcutta	Weekly	Every Thursday	23.01.97
Lucknow-Calcutta	Weekly	Every Wednesday	22.01.97
Moradabad-Calcutta	Weekly	Every Monday	20.01.97
Chennai-Delhi	Weekly	Every Friday	18.01.97
Bangalore-Delhi	Weekly	Every Sunday	23.02.97
Bombay-Delhi	Weekly	Every Friday	21.02.97
Delhi-Dhandarikalan (Ludhiana)	Weekly	Every Sunday	9.03.97
Dhandarikalan (Ludhiana) - Delhi	Weekly	Every Tuesday	11.03.97